GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2456
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2001
CHANGES IN PASSPORT ISSUING PROCEDURE
PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made some changes in the rules relating to issuance of passport ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the stipulated time for issuing a passport; and

(d) the number of passports in Madhya Pradesh during the last two years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) & (b) While there has been no recent change in the Passport Rules, 1980, the process of simplification of passport issuance procedure is a continuous process. A Committee to review the Passport Issue System was constituted by the Government and it has since submitted its recommendations which have been accepted The recommendations include the proposal to decentralise passport services to enable acceptance of passport application forms at the District level, and steps have been taken to implement this proposal. Application forms are already being accepted at the designated speed post passport collection centres. Another recommendation being implemented relates to the simplification of the police verification process which would enable certain categories of persons, whose identity and nationality are well established, to be issued passports without police verification.

(c) It is the Government`s endeavour to issue passports in 5-6 weeks provided clear Police Verification Report has been received and the application is complete in all other respects.

(d) The number of passports issued in Madhy Pradesh in the last two years is as below:

Year	No. of Passports issued
1999	38808
2000	38301